

# Jefferson Parish



*"Over the years, it has become clear that individual health is closely linked to community health—the health of the community and environment in which individuals live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community"*

**Healthy People 2010**

## Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

|   | Jefferson       | Louisiana        | U.S.        | HP 2010        |
|---|-----------------|------------------|-------------|----------------|
| <b>ECONOMICS, 2000</b>  |                 |                  |             |                |
| % All persons in poverty  | 13.7%           | 19.6%            | 12.4%       | --             |
| % Children under 18 in poverty  | 20.3%           | 26.6%            | 16.6%       | --             |
| % Unemployed 16 and over  | 5.6%            | 7.3%             | 5.8%        | --             |
| <b>EDUCATION 2002-2003</b>  |                 |                  |             |                |
| School Expenditure per Student  | \$6,747         | \$6,906          | --          | --             |
| Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled) | 93.1%           | 93.5%            | --          | --             |
| % High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)  | 8.3%            | 7.0%             | --          | --             |
| <b>MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002</b>   |                 |                  |             |                |
| Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)  | 7.7             | 10.2             | 7.0         | 4.5            |
| % Receiving prenatal care within first 3 months   | 84.7%           | 83.8%            | 83.7%       | 90.0%          |
| % Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)   | 78.0%           | 78.9%            | 76.2%       | --             |
| % Low birth weight  | 9.4%            | 10.5%            | 7.7%        | 5.0%           |
| % Births to teens ages 15 - 19  | 13.3%           | 15.5%            | 10.6%       | --             |
| % Children fully immunized by 2 years old   | --              | 69.8%            | 78.5%       | 90.0%          |
| <b>INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)</b>                      |                 |                  |             |                |
| Syphilis (primary and secondary)  | --              | 4.1              | 2.5         | 0.2            |
| Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)  | 1.8             | 8.6              | 5.4         | --             |
| Chlamydia   | 324.9           | 469.8            | 304.3       | 3.0            |
| Gonorrhea   | 163.3           | 265.6            | 116.2       | 19.0           |
| Tuberculosis  | 5.4             | 5.8              | 5.1         | 1.0            |
| <b>STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)</b>              |                 |                  |             |                |
| Heart   | 246.5           | 248.4            | 241.7       | 166.0          |
| Cancer  | 214.7           | 209.7            | 193.2       | 159.9          |
| Cerebrovascular Disease   | 57.0            | 57.4             | 56.4        | 48.0           |
| Accidents   | 46.3            | 46.7             | 37.0        | 17.5           |
| Diabetes  | 51.3            | 39.5             | 25.4        | 45.0           |
| Chronic Lower Respiratory   | 40.4            | 37.8             | 43.3        | --             |
| <b>COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003</b>   |                 |                  |             |                |
| Validated cases of child abuse/neglect<br>(rate per 1,000 population)                           | 6.2             | 10.9             | 12.4        | 10.3           |
| Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes<br>(rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)         | 2.0             | 2.1              | 1.5         | 0.8            |
| <b>HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004</b>   |                 |                  |             |                |
|   | <b>Region 1</b> | <b>Louisiana</b> | <b>U.S.</b> | <b>HP 2010</b> |
| % Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)  | 19.2%           | 23.5%            | 21.0%       | 12.0%          |
| % Obese - BMI >30 (adults 20+)  | 26.9%           | 27.0%            | 31.1%       | 15.0%          |
| % Having a mammogram within 2 years (women 40+)   | 77.0%           | 74.3%            | 74.6%       | 70.0%          |
| % Having a pap smear within 3 years (women 18+)   | 86.0%           | 85.2%            | 85.9%       | 90.0%          |
| % Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)   | 66.1%           | 68.6%            | 67.9%       | 90.0%          |

### Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United State, 2003". NA = Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (\*\*Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EM S/Injury Research & Prevention Program

Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

**History<sup>1, 2</sup>**

Jefferson Parish, named after Thomas Jefferson, was created on February 11, 1825. The parish adjoins New Orleans in the north and is a suburban residential section as well as a trade and industrial center. The parish stretches 60 miles to the south to the shores of the Gulf of Mexico at Grand Isle, a longtime seaside resort community and, more recently, the base for oil and related industries. In between these two extremes are the quiet bayous, cypress swamps, and wetlands called the Barataria section, where the famed pirate, Jean Lafitte, once headquartered.



In 1803, when Louisiana became part of the U.S., this area was a wilderness paradise, roamed by Choctaw Indians. Several communities with the early boundaries were Lafayette (now the Garden District) and Carrollton, both of which are now within the limits of Orleans Parish. Jefferson Parish was under military occupation during the Civil War. It was not until 1877 that the parish once again governed itself.

**Parish Seat<sup>3</sup>** .....Gretna

**Major Cities** (population over 5,000)

- |            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| ▪ Metairie | ▪ Marrero     |
| ▪ Gretna   | ▪ Harahan     |
| ▪ Kenner   | ▪ River Ridge |
| ▪ Harvey   | ▪ Terrytown   |
| ▪ Westwego |               |

**Parish Population<sup>4</sup>**

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| 2000.....                              | 455,466 |
| 2003 (estimate).....                   | 452,459 |
| 2000 Population by Race                |         |
| White.....                             | 69.8%   |
| African-American .....                 | 22.9%   |
| Some other race.....                   | 7.3%    |
| Hispanic or Latino (of any race) ..... | 7.1%    |
| 2000 Population by Age                 |         |
| Under 5 years .....                    | 6.6%    |
| 5-14 .....                             | 14.2%   |
| 15-17 .....                            | 4.5%    |
| 18-19 .....                            | 2.6%    |
| 20-24 .....                            | 6.5%    |
| 25-64 .....                            | 53.6%   |
| 65 & over .....                        | 11.9%   |

**Geography and Statistics<sup>5</sup>**

|                                  |       |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Average elevation .....          | 5 ft. |
| Land area in square miles .....  | 305.9 |
| Water area in square miles ..... | 336.5 |

**Climate**

|                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Average temperatures          |           |
| Annual .....                  | 69°       |
| January .....                 | 60°       |
| July .....                    | 90°       |
| Annual average rainfall ..... | 63 inches |

**Labor Force (2001)<sup>6</sup>**

## Jefferson Parish

|                         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Civilian.....           | 232,912 |
| Employed .....          | 223,406 |
| Unemployed.....         | 9,506   |
| Unemployment Rate ..... | 4.1%    |

## Louisiana

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Civilian.....           | 2,055,000 |
| Employed .....          | 1,956,500 |
| Unemployed.....         | 98,500    |
| Unemployment Rate ..... | 4.8%      |

**Colleges/Universities**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| ▪ Concordia U.<br>Wisconsin -New<br>Orleans Center | ▪ New Orleans Baptist<br>Theological Seminary              | ▪ Tulane University                             |
| ▪ Delgado Community<br>College                     | ▪ Notre Dame Seminary<br>School of Theology                | ▪ University of New<br>Orleans                  |
| ▪ Dillard University                               | ▪ Our Lady of Holy<br>Cross College                        | ▪ University of<br>Phoenix, Louisiana<br>Campus |
| ▪ Louisiana State<br>University Medical<br>Center  | ▪ Southern University<br>and A&M College at<br>New Orleans | ▪ Xavier University                             |
| ▪ Loyola University                                |  |   |

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002
2. Louisiana Office of Culture Recreation and Tourism, 1998. keywords: regional information, <<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002
4. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>
5. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>
6. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary <[http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF\\_Parishes\\_2000-Present.xls](http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls)>